

# ERIC PAZDZIORA

eric@ericpazdziora.com

## EDUCATION

---

- D.M.A., 2018      University of Maryland, College Park  
Music Composition, CGPA 3.9/4.0  
Studied with Mark Edwards Wilson  
Dissertation: *House of Winter: Opera in One Act*
- M.M., 2014      University of North Carolina—Greensboro  
Music Composition, CGPA 3.97/4.0  
Studied with Mark Engebretson and Alejandro Rutty  
Thesis: *Aspects of Collaboration and Questions of Identity in Ekaterinoslav*
- B.Mus., 2005      Moody Bible Institute, Chicago  
Sacred Music Composition, *Magna cum laude*  
Studied with Edwin T. Childs

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

---

- 2015–2018      Graduate Assistant / Adjunct Instructor  
*University of Maryland, College Park*
- Aural Skills MUSC 150, 151, 250, 251 (Instructor of record) – All levels of full curriculum; sight-singing and dictation from beginning solfege to atonal melodies
- Fundamentals of Music MUSC 140 (Instructor of record) – General music for non-majors; introductory theory, analysis, form, and composition (eight sections)
- 2012–2014      Graduate Assistant / Instructor  
*University of North Carolina—Greensboro*
- Composition Studies MUP 406 (Instructor of record) – Private lessons for composition major, including supervising senior recital
- Technology for Musicians MUS 108 (Instructor of record) – Technology course for music majors, including basic music technology
- Music Theory MUS 101, 102 (Teaching assistant) – Core curriculum for music majors, fundamentals, part-writing, and species counterpoint
- Ear Training MUS 105, 106 (Teaching assistant) – Core curriculum for music majors, beginning solfege and dictation of tonal melodies

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### Journal Articles

- “The Anxious Laughter of Silly Songs.” Pazdziora, Eric and John Patrick Pazdziora. *Jennesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* (Forthcoming).
- “New and Borrowed Chant in New Spain and Mexico: The Offices for the Espousal of the Virgin, the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin, the Virgin of the Pillar, and the Virgin of Guadalupe.” Hagg-Huglo, Barbara, Eric Pazdziora, Simon Polson, and Rachel Ruisard. *Études grégoriennes* 44 (2017): 111-175.
- “Psalm 96: Worship, Missions, and God’s Greatness.” *Journal of Ethnodoxology* 4:3 (2009).

**Music**

“Thief’s Song” (Voice + Piano). Text by Jane Yolen. In *Anthology of New Music for Mezzo-Soprano*. Vol 1, Megan Ihnen, ed. NewMusicShelf, 2018.

*Angels We Have Heard on High* (SATB a cappella). Octavo. GIA Publications (G-7603), 2011.

*Mick McGuire* (TTBB + Piano). Choral Octavo. Alliance Press (AMP-0792), 2010.

**RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE**

- 2019–present Music Teacher, Director of Curriculum  
*Music For Life Kids, Gaithersburg, MD*  
 Taught daily music classes for multiple preschools and childcare programs.  
 Taught individual and group lessons for beginning piano, voice, guitar.  
 Coordinated music lessons for developmentally disabled students.  
 Adapted curriculum to age-appropriate skill levels for ages 0–12.  
 Supervised transition to online learning models during COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2015–2018 Graduate Assistant  
*University of Maryland, College Park, MD*  
 Instructor for undergraduate music courses.  
 Supervised music technology lab.
- 2016–present Music Director  
*Epworth UMC, Gaithersburg, MD*  
 Played piano and organ for weekly traditional and contemporary services.  
 Accompanied chancel choir in weekly rehearsals.  
 Served as substitute conductor for rehearsals and services.
- 2016 Teaching Artist  
*Imagination Stage, Bethesda, MD*  
 Taught music and theatre class for elementary school students.
- 2015 Associate Director of Music  
*The Freedom Center for the Creative Arts, Greensboro, NC*  
 Coordinated all music instruction and activities for community arts center.  
 Taught group classes and individual lessons for pre-K to adult.  
 Directed weekly children’s and teen/adult choir rehearsals.  
 Obtained \$50,000 grant in non-profit funding from Google and Microsoft  
 Implemented cost-saving measures on website, improving design and SEO.  
 Edited audio and video for dance presentations.
- 2012–2014 Graduate Assistant  
*University of North Carolina—Greensboro*  
 Co-organized concert events, including New Music Festival.  
 Provided administrative assistance in Grammy-nominated recording studio.
- 2009–2012 Senior Copy Editor, Web Editor, Music Producer  
*UMI (Urban Ministries, Inc.), Calumet City, IL*  
 Supervised in-house and freelance copy editing for curriculum lines, books, denominational imprints, and commentary series.  
 Coordinated online music sales and licensing.  
 Wrote web copy and catalog descriptions of educational products.

- 2006–2012 Sunday Music Coordinator  
*Holy Trinity Church, Chicago, IL*  
 Organized and led contemporary and traditional music for weekly services.  
 Arranged and composed songs for congregational singing.
- 2008 Accompanist  
*MBI Women's Concert Choir, Chicago, IL*  
 Provided piano accompaniment for choral performances in a national tour.

## SELECTED COMPOSITIONS AND PERFORMANCES

---

- 2020 *Nativity of the Isles* (SATB a cappella + soloist). Texts by John Patrick Pazdziora. Performed by ARTIFICE Ensemble, 6 March 2020. Casey Cook, conductor.
- 2019 *Thief's Song* (Mezzo-Soprano, Piano). Text by Jane Yolen. Anthology release concert for NewMusicShelf. Performed by Megan Ihnen, New York, NY.
- 2017 *Canticles for the Holy Innocents* (SSAAT'TBB a cappella). Texts traditional. Chorosynthesis, Empowering Silenced Voices 2.0, Washington state tour, 8-14 January 2017. Wendy Moy, conductor.
- 2016 *The Unique Tale* (Woodwind Quintet, Mezzo-Soprano, Narrator). Premiered by Daraja Ensemble, College Park, MD.
- 2015 *Improbable Creatures from Physiologus: A Musical Bestiary* (Piano). Commissioned by Yao Lin. Premiered at New Music at Maryland, College Park, MD.
- 2015 *Four Songs from "Wild Earth."* (Alto Flute, Soprano). Texts from the book by Padraic Colum. Premiered at Connecticut College Faculty Showcase. Wendy Moy, soprano; Patricia Harper, alto flute.
- 2015 *Angels We Have Heard on High* (SATB a cappella). Cathedral Choir, St. John's Cathedral, Salford, Manchester, UK.
- 2014 *Ekaterinoslav: One Family's Journey to America* (Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, Chamber orchestra). Texts from the book by Jane Yolen. Star Theater, Greensboro, NC. Mark Engebretson, conductor.
- 2014 *The Savior's Carol* (SATB, Piano, Violin, Cello). St Thomas Episcopal Church choir, Denver, CO. LaDamion Massey, conductor.
- 2014 *Veni, Sancte Spiritus* (SATB, Violin). Church of the Ascension, Rochester, NY. Brian Schoetteler, conductor.
- 2013 *The Juniper Tree* (Multiple Percussion, Spoken Voice). Commissioned by Nomi Marcus. Premiered at UNC-Greensboro Percussion Studio Recital, Greensboro, NC
- 2013 *The Accidental Feast of the Holy Fool* (Mezzo-Soprano, Piano). Texts written by Jane Yolen. Premiered September 2013.
- 2012 *Three Scottish Gaelic Songs* (Mezzo-Soprano, Cello). Texts traditional. Commissioned by Ainsley Patterson and Charlie Rasmussen. UNC-Greensboro New Music Festival.
- 2010 *Mick McGuire* (T'TBB, Piano). American Choral Director's Association, MN State Conference. Minnesota Valley Men's Chorale, Steven O. Boehlke, conductor.

**AWARDS AND FUNDING**

- 
- 2019 District New Music Coalition: conference call for scores selection for *Nativity of the Isles* (SATB + solo). Performed at DMNC conference, Washington, DC.
- 2018 District New Music Coalition: conference call for scores selection for *Black Bull of Norway* (Soprano + ensemble). Performed at DMNC conference, Washington, DC.
- 2016 Chorosynthesis Singers: call for scores selection, residency with choir in Seattle for world premiere of *Canticles for the Holy Innocents* (SSAATTBB a cappella).
- 2016 Daraja Ensemble composition contest: *The Unique Tale* (woodwind quintet + mezzo-soprano + narrator).
- 2014 New Voices @ CUA (Catholic University of America): festival selection for *Doctor Milliner's Marvellous Musical Flying Machine, Being a Contraption of Rhymes and Games for a Jollification of Sad Musicians* (soprano + chamber ensemble + party noisemakers).
- 2013 Special Projects in Music Award (UNC—Greensboro): \$1500 grant for production of *Ekaterinoslav: One Family's Passage to America* (M.M. composition thesis).
- 2013 Joel Adams & William Carroll Scholarship for Graduate Study in Music (University of North Carolina—Greensboro).
- 2013 New Haven Oratorio Chorus contest winner for *The Savior's Carol* (SATB + harp). "A Ceremony of Carols Old and New," Church of the Redeemer, New Haven, CT. New Haven Oratorio Chorus; Daniel Shaw, conductor; Grace Cloutier, harp.
- 2004 DuPage Symphony Orchestra "Fanfare for Our Fiftieth" Composition Contest: winner for *Fanfare: With Great Rejoicing* (full orchestra).

**MASTER CLASSES AND READINGS**

- 
- 2018 Reading: Sirius Quartet. *The Boy Who Dreamed of Flying* (String quartet).
- 2017 Reading: Nouveau Classical Project. *Black Bull of Norway* (Pierrot ensemble, Soprano).
- 2017 Master class: Anders Hillborg. *The Unique Tale* (woodwind quintet), University of Maryland
- 2017 Reading: University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra. *Wonder Voyage* (orchestra).
- 2016 Master class: Zhou Long. *Ekaterinoslav* (Chamber ensemble), University of Maryland.
- 2013 European American Musical Alliance (Paris, France). Studied composition with Dr. David Conte and students of Nadia Boulanger
- 2013 Reading: Cassatt Quartet. *The Boy Who Dreamed of Flying* (String quartet).
- 2013 Master class: Samuel Adler. *Doctor Milliner's Marvellous Musical Flying Machine* (Soprano + ensemble), University of North Carolina
- 2013 Reading: Oasis Saxophone Quartet. *Prelude to the Adventures of Phineas J. Pfoff*.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**


---

ASCAP  
 The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada  
 Society for Music Theory  
 Society of Composers, Inc.

**REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**